

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Method of monitoring the operatability of a weight-sensing system in a vehicle having at least one force sensor ~~(2, 4, 6, 8)~~,

comprising the steps:

detecting force acting on said at least one sensor;

~~characterized in that the weight-sensing system emits~~ emitting a first warning message when a threshold value for the force acting upon the at least one force sensor ~~(2, 4, 6, 8)~~ is exceeded, ~~which wherein said~~ warning message ~~points to a~~ indicates possible damage to the weight-sensing system.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Method according to Claim 1, wherein,

~~characterized in that~~ [[,]] in the event of an impact of the ~~motor~~ vehicle, ~~the a~~ second warning message independent of said first warning message is emitted by another ~~impact~~ sensor of the vehicle sensing the impact.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Method according to Claim 1, wherein,

~~characterized in that~~ [[,]] when the given value ~~for of~~ the force acting upon the at least one force sensor (2, 4, 6, 8) in the event of an impact of the vehicle is not reached, ~~the another~~ warning message is emitted by an occupant protection system sensing the impact.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Method according to Claim 1, wherein,

~~characterized in that~~ the warning message is displayed in a combination instrument of the vehicle[[,]]~~particularly as a text and/or as a further development of a signal light.~~

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Method according to Claim 1, wherein,

~~characterized in that~~ the warning message is at least one of set on a CAN (car area network) bus ~~and/or is~~ and filed in a fault memory.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Method according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said at least one force sensor is a strain gauge force transducer, an inductive sensor or a piezoelectric sensor ~~is provided as the force sensor.~~

7. (NEW) A method of monitoring a vehicle weight sensing system comprising the steps:

providing a force sensor arrangement in said vehicle independent of an impact sensor arrangement,

measuring a force applied to said sensor arrangement,

comparing said measured force to a predetermined value,

outputting a warning signal when said measured force exceeds said predetermined value.

8. (NEW) The method of Claim 7, wherein said force system arrangement includes at least one force sensor.

9. (NEW) Method according to Claim 7, wherein,

the warning message is at least one of set on a CAN (car area network) bus and filed in a fault memory.

10. (NEW) Method according to Claim 8, wherein said at least one force sensor is a strain gauge force transducer, an inductive sensor or a piezoelectric sensor.

11. (NEW) Method according to Claim 7, wherein,
the warning message is displayed in a combination instrument of the vehicle.

12. (NEW) The method according to Claim 4, wherein,
said warning message is a text or a signal light.

13. (NEW) The method according to Claim 11, wherein,
said warning message is a text or a signal light.